

### **REMARKS**

The claims stand rejected as being obvious in view of the article by Greenhill et al. cited by the Applicant, in view of other art references, as indicated on page 2 of the Office Action. In response, Applicant submits here a Declaration Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.131 of prior invention with respect to Greenhill. The obviousness rejection is believed to be overcome as to all pending claims, because the claimed subject matter was conceived and reduced to practice before February, 1997 which appears to be the publication date of Greenhill.

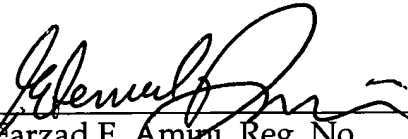
As explained in the enclosed declaration and supporting exhibits A, B, and C, the subject input buffer design was simulated and found to be superior to other competing designs that were being considered. Although Mr. Isbara could not locate any documentation that explicitly referred to his input buffer design as being actually used and actually tested in the CPU chip code named P55 C AQS, it is submitted that such a showing is not required to demonstrate reduction to practice in the relatively mature field of insulated gate field effect transistor integrated circuit devices. See, for example, *Scott V. Finney*, 34 F.3d 1058, 1063, 32 USPQ 2d 115, 119 (Fed. Cir. 1994) ("Reduction to practice does not require actual use, but only a reasonable showing that the invention will work to overcome the problem it addresses."); *McDonnell Douglas Corp. vs. U.S.*, 208 USPQ 728 (Court of Claims Trial Division 1980) ("Computer simulation of performance of weapons system may suffice to constitute actual reduction to practice within the meaning of government contract"). Accordingly, for the above reasons, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection in view of Greenhill.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR, & ZAFMAN LLP


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12400 Wilshire Boulevard  
Seventh Floor  
Los Angeles, California 90025  
(310) 207-3800

By:   
Farzad E. Amiri, Reg. No.

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on August 10, 2004.

  
Jean Svoboda